

HOUSE BILL 81

Unofficial Copy  
C5

2004 Regular Session  
4r0602  
CF 4r0530

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegate Montgomery**

Requested: September 16, 2003

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2004

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Electric Companies - Special Medical Equipment Program List**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring electric companies to maintain a special medical  
4 equipment program list in accordance with regulations adopted by the Public  
5 Service Commission; requiring electric companies to distribute the list to certain  
6 service dispatchers to assist in restoring electricity to certain individuals under  
7 certain circumstances; requiring electric companies to notify certain individuals  
8 of scheduled power outages under certain circumstances; defining a certain  
9 term; and generally relating to the special medical equipment program list.

10 BY adding to

11 Article - Public Utility Companies

12 Section 7-309

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (1998 Volume and 2003 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article - Public Utility Companies**

18 7-309.

19 (A) IN THIS SECTION, "SPECIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PROGRAM LIST" MEANS  
20 A LIST MAINTAINED BY AN ELECTRIC COMPANY OF INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE  
21 SUBMITTED A CERTIFICATE BY A LICENSED PHYSICIAN THAT STATES THAT THE  
22 INDIVIDUAL HAS A NEED FOR SPECIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT EITHER FOR LIFE  
23 SUPPORT OR TO ENABLE THE INDIVIDUAL TO LIVE INDEPENDENTLY.

24 (B) EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL CREATE AND MAINTAIN A SPECIAL  
25 MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PROGRAM LIST IN ACCORDANCE WITH REGULATIONS  
26 ADOPTED BY THE COMMISSION.

27 (C) EACH ELECTRIC COMPANY SHALL:

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1           (1)       DISTRIBUTE ITS SPECIAL MEDICAL EQUIPMENT PROGRAM LIST TO  
2 ITS SERVICE DISPATCHERS ON A REGIONAL BASIS FOR USE IN RESTORING  
3 ELECTRICITY SERVICE, SO THAT INDIVIDUALS ON THE LIST MAY BE GIVEN PRIORITY  
4 IN THE EVENT OF AN UNSCHEDULED ELECTRICITY OUTAGE; AND

5           (2)       AT LEAST 48 HOURS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED OUTAGE, PROVIDE  
6 NOTICE OF A SCHEDULED OUTAGE TO EACH INDIVIDUAL ON THE SPECIAL MEDICAL  
7 EQUIPMENT PROGRAM LIST WHOSE SERVICE WILL BE AFFECTED BY THE  
8 SCHEDULED OUTAGE.

9       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
10 October 1, 2004.